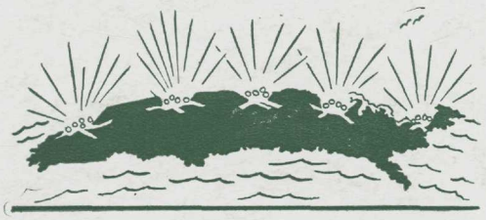
Mr. C.E. Sherman
Brown Hall
Campus

G-E Campus News



MORE BRIGHT SPOTS ON THE GLOBE

THE mellow, golden-orange glow of sodium lighting is springing up all across the continent. The latest installation, the largest in the United States, is located in the state of Washington. Here sixty-six 10,000-lumen General Electric units line almost three miles of the four-lane Pacific highway between Tacoma and Fort Lewis.

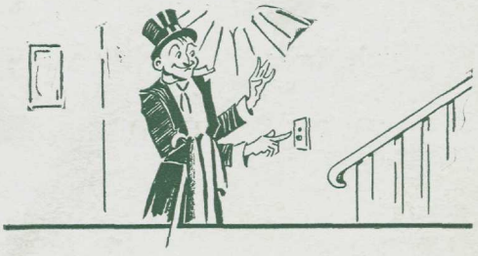
Less than three years ago the sodium lamp made its first American appearance on a highway near Schenectady. Today the largest installation is on the Pacific coast, and the second-largest is at Lynn, Mass., on the Atlantic. In between, highways, bridges, traffic circles, and underpasses are being lighted for safety with these new luminaires, and G-E sodium lighting units have been installed in Canada, Hawaii, India, Spain, South Africa, Dutch East Indies, and Brazil.

X-RAY FOR ART'S SAKE

IS there a portrait of Great Uncle Ezra gathering dust in the attic? It may pay to x-ray Uncle before handing him over to the junkman, for behind Ezra's imposing whiskers may be hiding the sister of the Mona Lisa.

Not long ago, a portable G-E X-Ray Corporation unit disclosed a valuable canvas by the seventeenth-century artist, Goya, concealed under an apparently worthless picture. More recently a New Orleans painter and art expert has used the x-ray to discover a genuine da Vinci signature beneath layers of paint applied by a later and less-capable artist. A sister painting to the newly found da Vinci recently sold for a quarter of a million dollars.

The x-ray does more than discover lost Old Masters; it tells how the great artists of the past worked. A series of radiographs can disclose the full story of their brushwork from the first rough sketch to the last correction and afterthought. The art student of today, by an intelligent use of the x-ray, is in a position to take lessons from the geniuses of the past.



NO CLICK!

THE life of the party, coming home with the milkman, need no longer fear the betraying click of the light switch if his house wiring includes the latest electric switch developed in the G-E Research Laboratory.

Two shallow chrome-steel cups, sealed together with a strip of glass, form the two contacts. A ceramic disk with a hole in it, and a few drops of mercury, partly fill the enclosure between the cups. The device is filled with hydrogen and sealed by welding. In the "off" position, the hole in the disk is above the mercury level. A rotation of twenty degrees to the "on" position permits the mercury to flow through the hole and make the electric connection.

The time-honored click of the switch is abolished. In the laboratory in Schenectady, one of these mercury switches has turned a 200-watt lamp on and off some 65 million times in the last two years, and there are no signs of wearing out or failure.

96-245DH

GENERAL ELECTRIC